

Message Text

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43

ACTION TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, IBRD

SUBJECT: U.S. PARTICIPATION IN IDA

REF: STATE 024223

1. LETTER FROM SECRETARY OF TREASURY GEORGE SHULTZ TO AUSTRIAN GOVERNOR OF IDA, MINISTER OF FINANCE ANDROSCH, WAS DELIVERED TODAY. ECON COUNSELOR DISCUSSED LETTER WITH SEKTIONSCHEF NEUDORFER, WHO IS NO. 2 MAN IN FINANCE MINISTRY AND IN CHARGE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT LETTER WOULD REASSURE GOA OF USG COMMITMENT TO CONTINUE OUR SUPPORT FOR IDA. NEUDORFER SAID THAT MINISTRY OF FINANCE WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE POSITIVE COURSE AS FAR AS AUSTRIA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO IDA ARE CONCERNED.

2. NEUDORFER SAID THAT AUSTRIA'S SHARE OF IDA'S
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FOURTH REPLENISHMENT WAS 30.6 MILLION DOLLARS, THAT

MINISTRY OF FINANCE IS MOVING FORWARD WITH NECESSARY LEGISLATION AND THAT MATTER WILL GO TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FOR DECISION DURING FEBRUARY. HE EXPECTS FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION BY COUNCIL BUT POSSIBLY SOME DIFFICULTY WHEN LEGISLATION IS CONSIDERED IN PARLIAMENT. NEUDORFER COMMENTED THAT MOOD OF SOME OFFICIALS WAS NOT FAVORABLE TOWARDS LDC'S IN VIEW OF RECENT EXPERIENCES AT NAIROBI WHERE LDC'S HAD INVARIABLY VOTED WITH THE OIL PRODUCING STATES. NEUDORFER ALSO MENTIONED THAT THERE APPEARS TO BE CORTWDOR TALK IN SOME INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT PRESENT MAGNITUDE AND SCHEDULE OF FOURTH REPLENISHMENT MUST BE REVIEWED. HE REITERATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE FELT CERTAIN GOA WOULD CONTINUE ITS SUPPORT TO IDA.

COMMENT: THOSE GOA OFFICIALS WHO FOLLOW THIS SUBJECT CLOSELY UNDERSTAND AND ARE GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO USG VICISSITUDES IN OBTAINING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE IFI'S. NEVERTHELESS, THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN CONGRESS COMBINED WITH IMPLICATIONS OF ENERGY CRISIS COULD CREATE SOME DIFFICULTIES FOR GOA ACTION ON REPLENISHMENT, PARTICULARLY IN AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT.HUMES

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